THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
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FOR RELEASE Immediately

THEODORE ROUSSEAU TO SPEAK AT ART MUSEUM

Theodore Rousseau, Jr., Curator of Paintings at New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, will speak at The Cleveland Museum of Art on Friday November 9 at 8:15 p.m. His talk, entitled TITIAN - HIS LIFE AND RELATIONSHIP TO MODERN PAINTING, is given in connection with the Museum's current VENETIAN TRADITION Exhibition, and will be generously illustrated with color slides.

Rousseau believes that a museum should be essentially "a theatre where a visitor can find delight and entertainment." As Curator of Paintings for one of the nation's great repositories of art, Mr. Rousseau is responsible for the arrangement of paintings in the Metropolitan's ninty-five modernized rooms.

He was born in Freeport, Long Island, and educated at the Lycee Henri IV, in Paris, where his father was manager of the Paris branch of the Guaranty Trust Company; at Eton, where he won a number of prizes for drawing; and at Harvard, from which he graduated with honors in 1935. He subsequently travelled extensively in Europe, partly for pleasure, partly to do research for an M.A. thesis on medieval French art, and then returned to Cambridge and taught fine arts at the Fogg Museum.

In 1940,he became Assistant Curator of Paintings at the National Gallery in Washington. The war took him to Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, France, Austria, Germany and Japan, among other places. As an assistant naval attache to the American Embassies in Lisbon and Madrid, he did intelligence work. As operations officer of its Art Looting Investigation Unit his assignment was to arrest and interrogate those suspected of stealing art treasures. He returned to Spain and there made contact with Goering's banker, Alois Miedl, who, after seven or eight weeks of conversations, gave him the information on many a "looter". Later, at an interrogation center at Alt Aussee, the salt-mining town near Salz, where much "loot" was recovered, he questioned such prisoners as Heinrich Hoffman, Hitler's photographer.

In the fall of 1946, after a five-month tour of duty in Japan, Rousseau became Associate Curator of Paintings at the Metropolitan, and in July of 1948 became Curator of Paintings,his present position.

He frequently enjoys goggle-fishing while swimming underwater. Rousseau has pursued this hobby in, or off, Portugal, Spain, the south of France, and Japan, and, returning from Portugal, he stopped off in Brazil and Trinidad, where goggle-fishing is first-class.

His Museum lecture is open free to the public.